



TRM 1007

Surfing the MISP

A quick guide to the Motion Imagery Standards Profile

Current to MISP Version 6.2

The MISB

From 1996-2000, the DoD/IC Video Working Group (VWG) developed motion imagery standards and the principal document was called the Video Imagery Standards Profile and in 2000 became the Motion Imagery Standards Board (MISB) under the NGA Innovision Directorate, effectively establishing an official standards body responsible for reviewing and recommending standards for motion imagery, associated metadata, audio and other related systems for use within the Department of Defense, Intelligence Community, and United States Imagery and Geospatial System (DoD/IC/USIGS). The MISB is the primary agent for the Functional Management role of NGA with respect to motion imagery.

Motion Imagery is recognized by the Intelligence and Defense communities as a vital part of our current and future intelligence picture. As our ability to collect motion imagery and achieve persistent surveillance continues to grow, ensuring interoperability of motion imagery formats with other types of sensor outputs, and making that critical intelligence available to those who need to know becomes increasingly important.

Standards greatly increase the value of information. By providing an underlying "common language" for the sharing of information, standards foster breadth in knowledge and depth in intelligence. Nowhere are standards more crucial in realizing this added value than within the acquisition, processing, exploitation, and dissemination workflow processes for motion imagery rich-media assets.

Establishing standards for motion imagery encoding, metadata schemas and dissemination protocols in conjunction with compliance enforcement and testing helps prevent the proliferation of proprietary, stovepipe systems that are not interoperable. The MISB's mission is to unify the motion imagery workflow, effectively maximizing the value of MI assets for all stakeholders. Architecting the PED workflow within a standards-based foundation and guiding the development, acquisition, and implementation of tools, technologies and processes will position our Community to create solutions that have far greater value for the warfighter.

Working Groups

Advanced Compression Working Group (ACWG)

Serves to identify and recommend commercially standardized motion imagery compression technologies for the DoD and the Intelligence Community.

Advanced Motion Imagery Working Group (AMIWG)

Addresses advanced motion imagery as a key enabling technology and supports the development of advanced motion imagery standards, Recommended Practices (RP) and Engineering Guidelines (EG) for advanced motion imagery collection, processing, exploitation, display and dissemination.

Format Working Group (FWG)

Provides direction and leadership in the development of RPs and EGs for utilizing commercially available technologies and protocols to ensure suitability to and compliance with Community requirements

Infrared Working Group (IRWG)

Develops Standards and RPs that support infrared motion imagery collection, processing, exploitation and dissemination

Interoperability Working Group (IWG)

Develops and mediates RPs and EGs to help ensure interoperability of motion imagery systems and products in commercial and Government arenas for the DoD and Intelligence Communities.

Metadata Working Group (MWG)

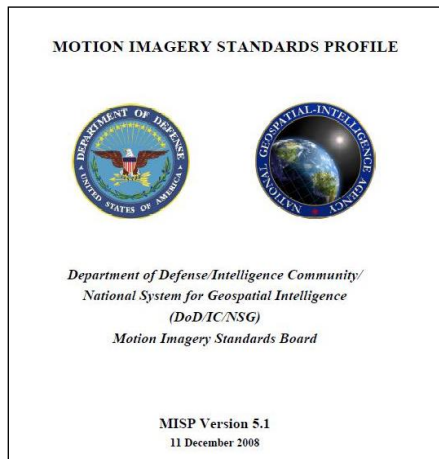
Develops RPs and EGs that foster metadata harmonization among motion imagery systems, leading to easily accessed, accurate motion imagery data that can be exploited by a wide range of users

Motion Imagery Tradecraft Working Group (MITWG)

A collaborative government/industry working group focused on the challenges of collection, storing, retrieving, processing and analyzing large volumes of motion imagery for the development of intelligence and for the support of military operations.

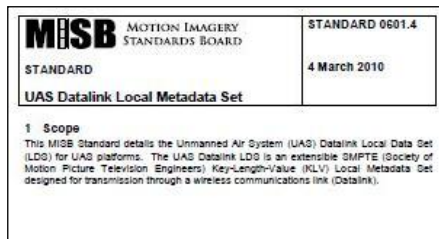
Interpretability, Quality, and Metrics Working Group (IQMWG)

The Interpretability, Quality, and Metrics Working Group (IQMWG) is the principal focus within the MISB for specific interpretability, quality and metrics (IQM) related issues.

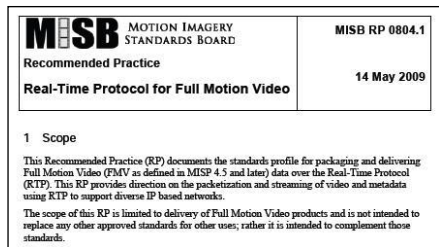


MISP: The Motion Imagery Standards Profile (MISP) is applicable to all DoD/IC/NSG motion imagery systems that are subject to the DoD Joint Technical Architecture and the NSG Technical Architecture. All new motion imagery systems are required to be compliant with provisions of the MISP as soon as practical.

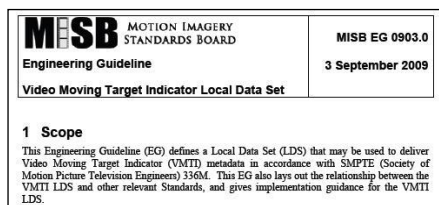
MISP compliance is based upon compliance to a specified approved version of the MISP (e.g. MISP Version (V) 5.1, MISP V5.0, etc.). The motion imagery system supplier specifies the MISP version for which it is seeking compliance along with three qualifications: the MISM-Level or IRSM-Level for compression, any metadata RP/EG/STDs, the file format for transport or storage, and any MISB timing specifications.



STANDARD: Where the MISP term STANDARD is used, the MISP item (chosen by specific MISB adoption, and approved by the NCGIS), mandates binding technical implementation policy, and as such, should be identified in Government procurement actions as a mandatory compliance item in order for vendor offerings to be accepted by the Government. Standards, as represented in this MISP are not considered voluntary for DoD/IC/NSG users and systems. They are mandatory.



RECOMMENDED PRACTICE: Documents a recommended implementation or practice that further clarifies the implementation of a STANDARD or PROFILE in order to insure interoperability across DoD/IC/NSG systems. Recommended Practices chosen by specific MISB adoption should be considered to be a technical implementation policy, and as such, may be identified in Government procurement actions as a mandatory compliance item in order for vendor offerings to be accepted by the Government.

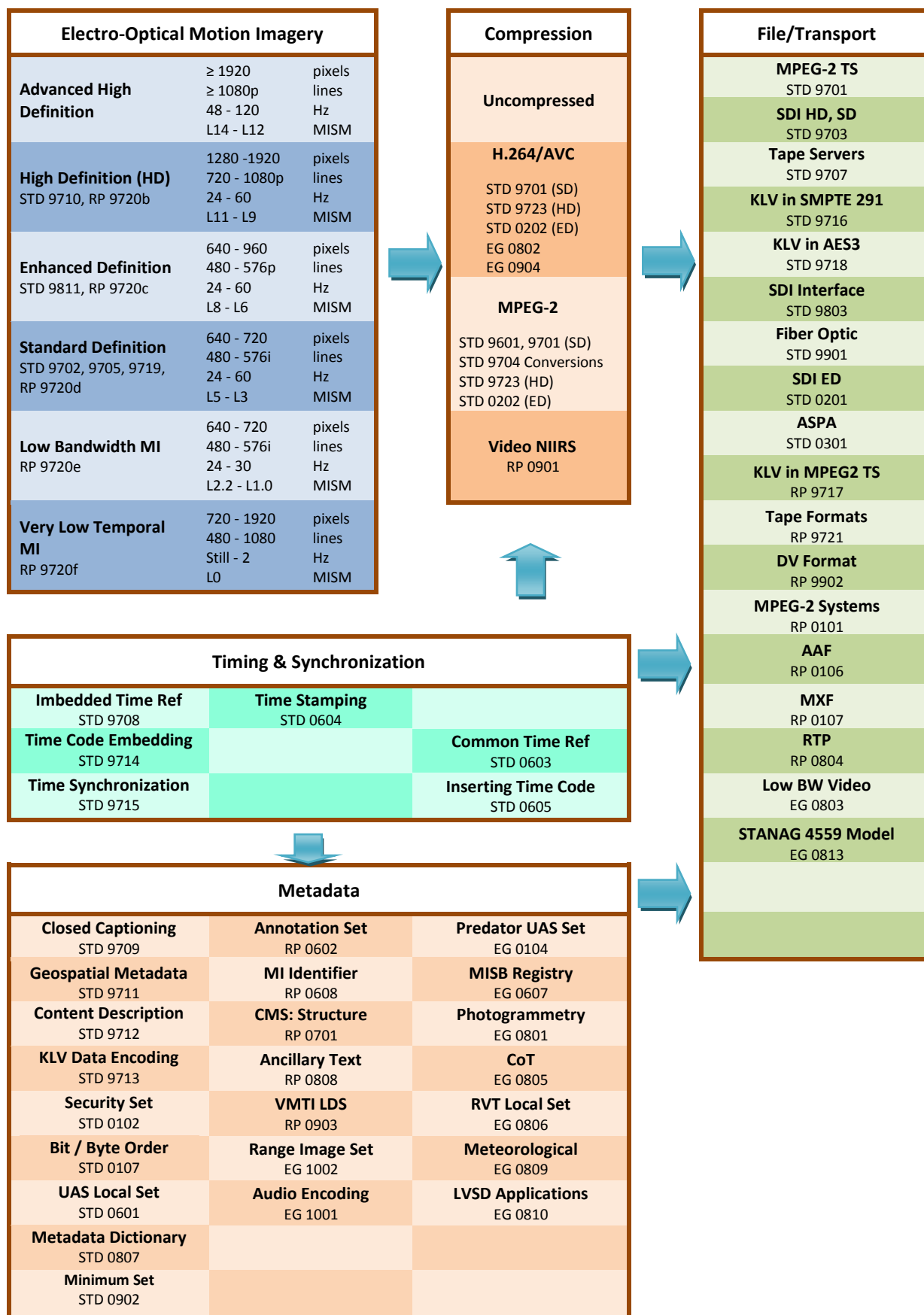


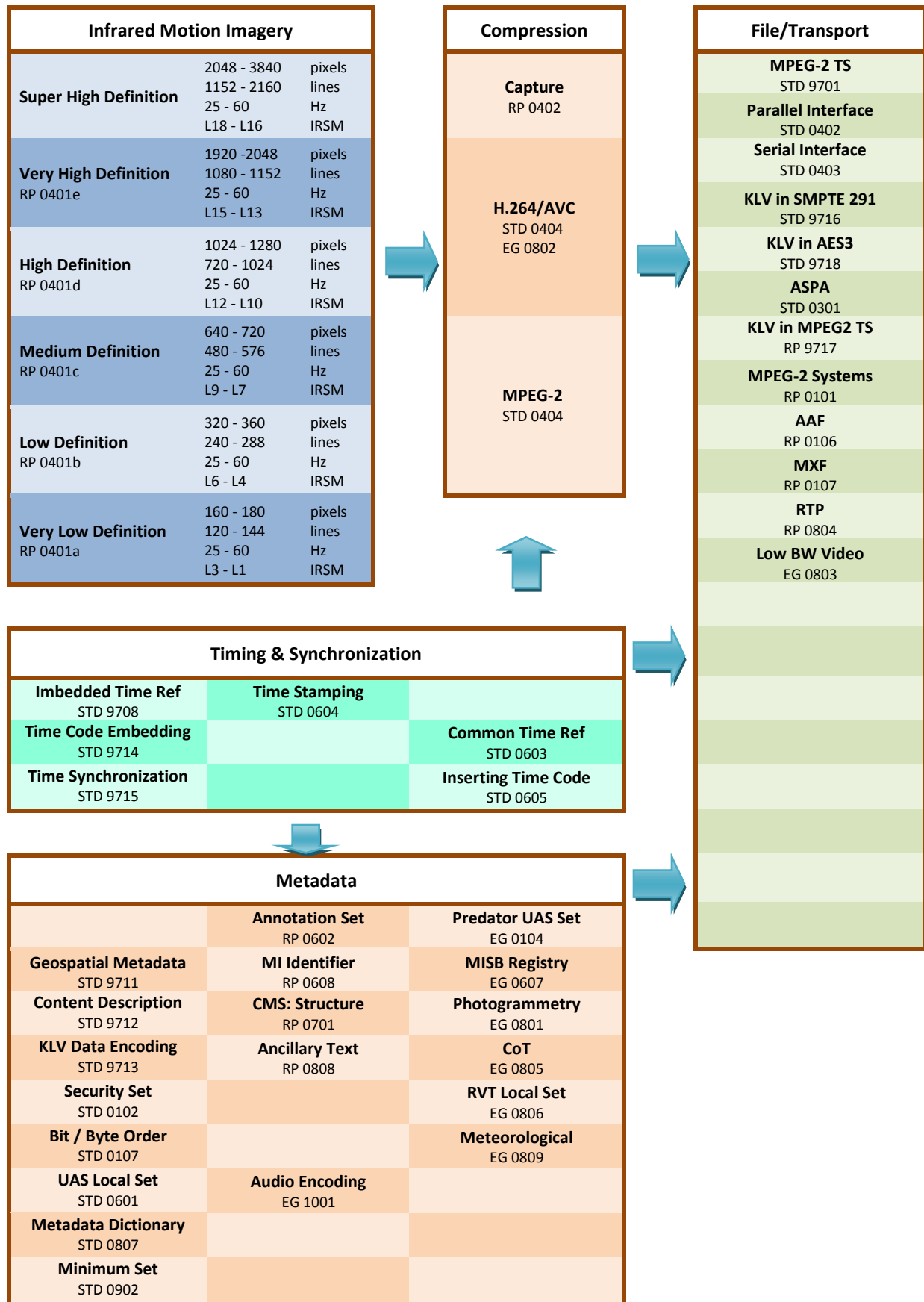
ENGINEERING GUIDELINE: Represents good engineering principals, and therefore, should be implemented if at all possible.



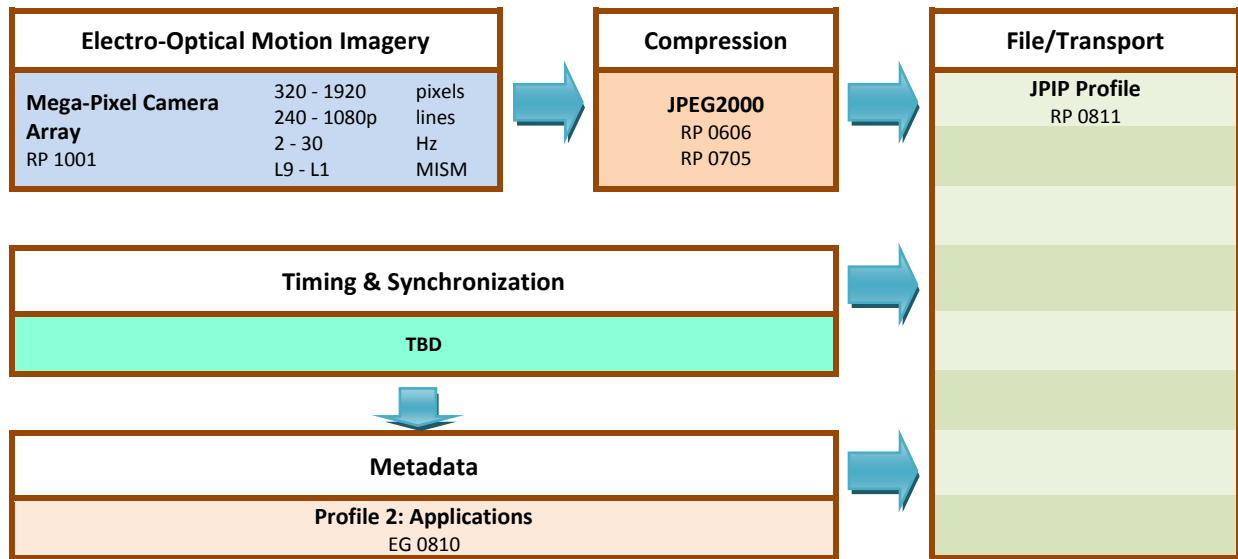
TECHNICAL REFERENCE MATERIAL: Documents information collected from research, technical exchange meetings, or study that does not result in a Standard, Recommended Practice, or Engineering Guideline, but contributes to further understanding of the topic that may prove useful in the application of said MISB documentation.

MISB Standards, RPs, & EGs for EO Imagery

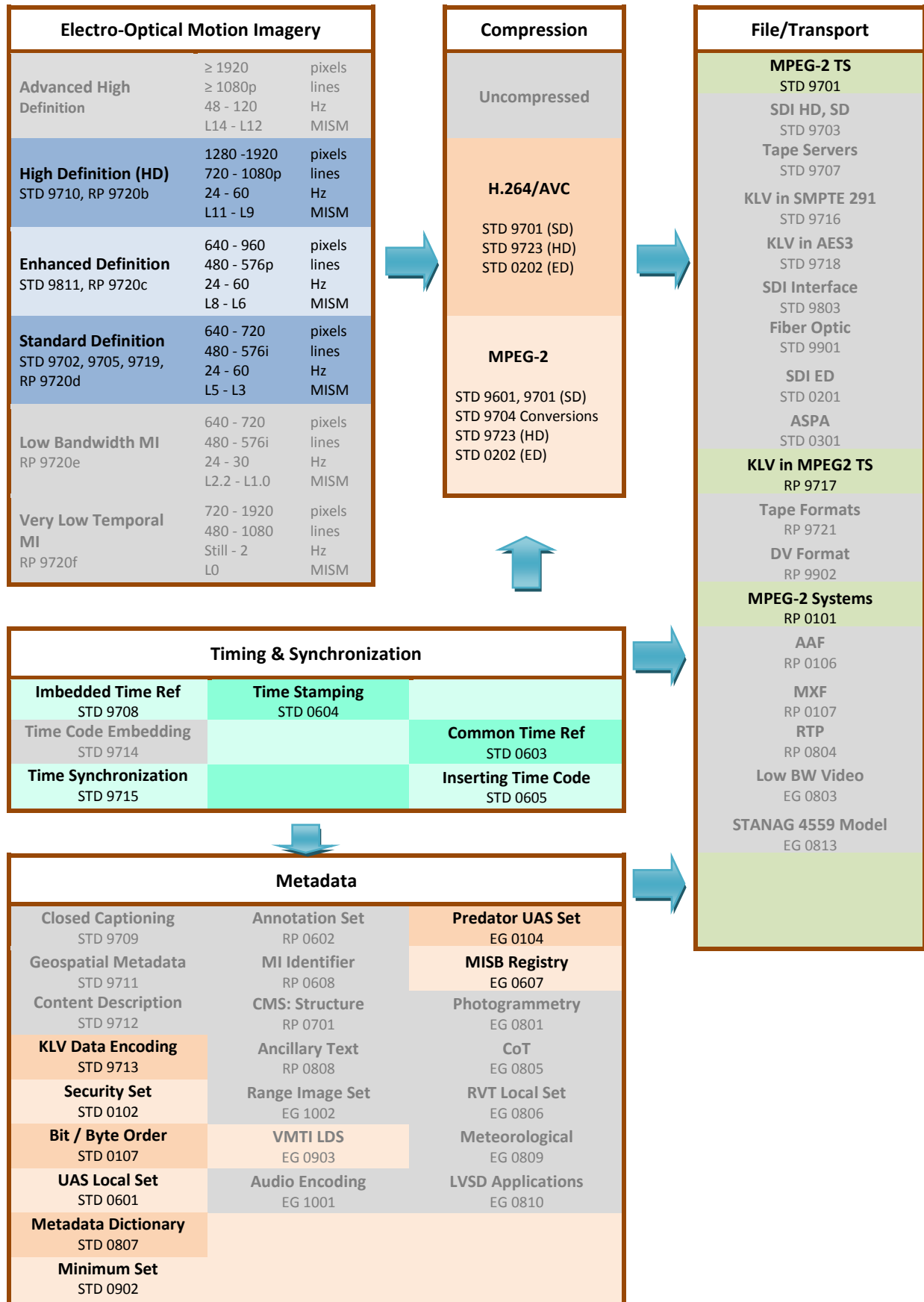




MISB Standards, RPs, & EGs for LVSD



Example: **Unmanned System Interoperability Profile (USIP) 1**



Motion Imagery

Motion Imagery is defined as imagery [a likeness or representation of any natural or man-made feature or related object or activity] utilizing sequential or continuous streams of images that enable observation of the dynamic, (temporal), behavior of objects within the scene. Motion Imagery temporal rates—nominally expressed in frames per second—must be sufficient to characterize the desired dynamic phenomena. Motion Imagery is defined as including metadata and nominally beginning at frame rates of 1 Hz (1 frame per second) or higher within a common field of regard. Full Motion Video (FMV) falls within the context of these standards. Within motion imagery, the following domains are currently specified:

- Electro Optical (including video and television)
- Infrared (including low-light television)
- LVSD – Large Volume Streaming Data
- Multispectral (MSI) / Hyperspectral (HSI)

Motion Imagery Standards Profile Applicability to DoD/IC/NSG Communities

The MISP is applicable to all DoD/IC/NSG motion imagery systems that are subject to the DoD Joint Technical Architecture and the NSG Technical Architecture. All new motion imagery systems are required to be compliant with provisions of the MISP as soon as practical. All analog motion imagery systems are considered to be legacy systems as of 12 June 1997. In accordance with the MISP, all new systems are required to be based on digital motion imagery technology.

MISP Compliance

Motion Imagery Standards Profile (MISP) compliance is based upon compliance to a specified approved version of the MISP. The motion imagery system supplier specifies the MISP version for which it is seeking compliance (only MISP 4.4 and newer versions are testable by the JITC- Joint Interoperability Test Command) along with three qualifications: the MISM-Level for video compression, the file format for transport or storage, and the metadata RP/EG/STDs used. MISM levels are as defined per the MISP version specified by the system supplier. All signals tested are assumed digital. Metadata is tested for compliance to the specified version of the MISP and respective EG's/RP's. Draft RPs/EGs will not be tested until approved by the MISB. The motion imagery system may include other MISB RPs/EGs of their choice including, for example, RP 0608, RP 0602 and/or RP 0103, although these are not required for compliance. In addition, Security metadata shall comply with MISB Standard 0102.